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ABSTRACT

Most of the material for this issue of the "Goldfinch," which explores the life of Carrie Chapman Catt, came from the archives of the State Historical Society of Iowa. Carrie Chapman Catt (1859-1947) was an Iowan who advocated woman suffrage and spent 26 years actively working for that cause. The issue contains a biography of Catt, and information about her two husbands who supported her suffrage work, the Iowa suffrage movement, Iowa men who worked for suffrage, other Iowa women who worked for the vote, and Carrie Chapman Catt's work in journalism. There are also activities for readers (e.g., word games and matching games), a time-line of the suffrage movement and Carrie Chapman Catt's life, some of the arguments for and against women's suffrage that appeared at the time, and a brief explanation of how inanimate objects can be used to interpret the past. The document contains numerous black and white photographs. (JB)

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ED314306

The Goldfinch

Iowa History for Young People
Volume 11, Number 1
September 1989

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Carrie Chapman Catt and Woman Suffrage

The Goldfinch

Member of EDPRESS

1988 Gold Lamp Honor Award Winner
Iowa History for Young People

Volume 11, Number 1
September 1989

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State Historical Society of Iowa, Iowa City

Cover: Carrie Chapman Catt arriving in New York City in 1920 after women had won the right to vote.

Editor
Carolyn Hardesty

Acknowledgements: Most of the material for this issue came from the archives of the State Historical Society of Iowa in Iowa City and Des Moines. The primary sources included letters, reports, newspaper and magazine articles and pamphlets. Books used for researching the life of Carrie Chapman Catt included Jacqueline Van Voris's *Carrie Chapman Catt: A Public Life* and Mary Ellen Peck's *Carrie Chapman Catt*. Louise Noun's *Strong-Minded Women* was an important source for biographical material as well as for the suffrage movement within Iowa and throughout the nation.

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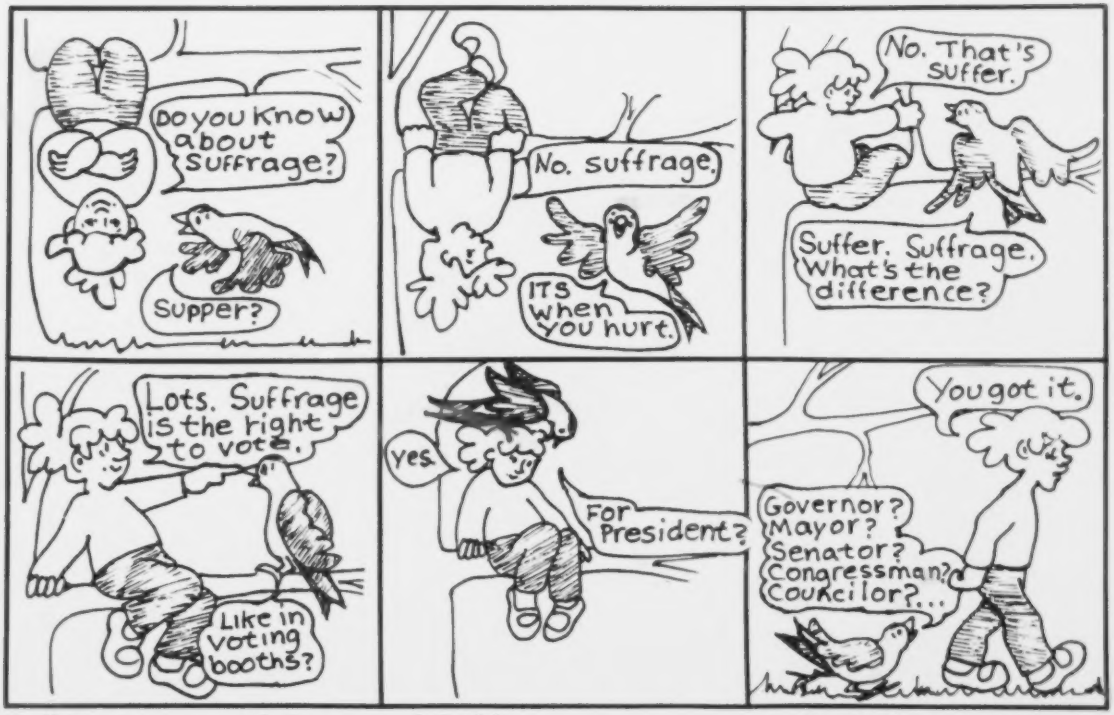


Talking it over with Rosie and Goldie *Art by Barbara Asch Camillo*

Playing fair is important to all of us.

Sometimes people want to do things, but rules say they can't. Perhaps they're too short to go on a ride at the amusement park or too young to visit a friend in the hospital. We all live with many laws and rules. Rules are supposed to protect us or to help make things fair.

This issue of the *Goldfinch* explores the life of Carrie Chapman Catt. When she was 13 years old, she learned that women could not vote. She was shocked and angry. It seemed unfair to her.

She spent many years of her life working with other people to change the law so that women could vote. The articles and activities in this magazine tell about some of the Iowans who worked for suffrage. You'll discover why they wanted to change the law, and how they did it.

—The Editor

Who is this woman and why is she smiling?

SOMEONE ONCE SAID that history is a thick layer of stories about people's lives. These life stories, or biographies, can teach us about other times and other cultures.

But we have a problem: how do we learn about someone we don't know, someone who died before we were born?

Some of the ways we learn about people from the past are:

- Reading books about them.
- Reading newspaper articles written during their time.
- Reading the books and articles they wrote *themselves*.
- Reading letters and diaries they kept.
- Looking at the places they lived and attended school.
- Talking to their friends or their relatives.
- Looking through their scrapbooks or photo albums.
- Reading about the clubs they belonged to.
- Reading about other people who were doing the same kinds of work.

Learning about someone's life is like following trailmarkers. For instance, we know that Carrie Chapman Catt grew up on a farm near Charles City, and that she went to college in Ames. We know that she worked for a newspaper in Mason City, and that she married twice. We know that she worked hard for woman suffrage in Iowa and in many other states.

What About Gossip?

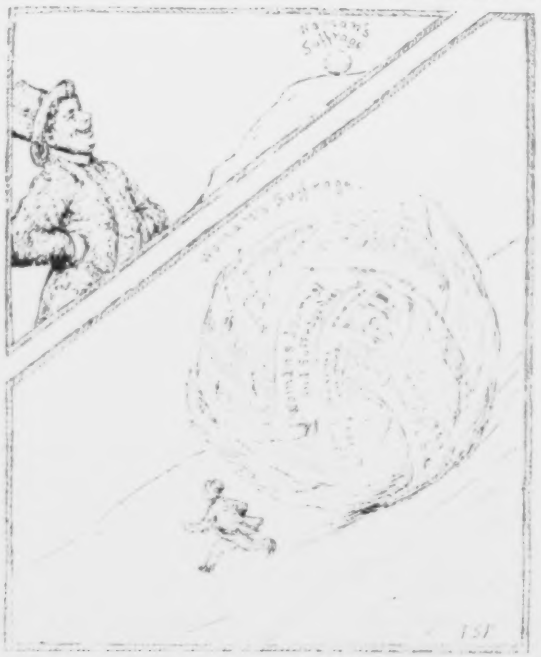
One word that we left off the list above is gossip. We often learn about the lives of our friends through gossip. Sometimes what we hear is true and sometimes it's not, so we try to check it. We ask someone else or go to the person who was talked about. When we study a stranger's life, we have to do that same thing. Many incorrect things are said or written. We have to check different sources to find the most accurate information.

Solving a Mystery

So now we have a mystery to solve. It's like heading into fog. Only a few landmarks show through the mist. As we solve the mystery, we'll discover more about our state and the people who have changed it. □

Women Should Vote

1. Women should vote because it is right.
2. The country needs the working power of ALL of its citizens, not just half.
3. Women's votes will improve the morals of society and help elect wise lawmakers.
4. Laws affect women as much as they affect men.
5. Eight million working women should be able to elect the people who pass laws for workers.
6. Where women have voted, they have done it with wisdom.
7. Women pay taxes.
8. Public-spirited mothers make public-spirited sons.



State Historical Society of Iowa, Des Moines

This cartoon, drawn by Frederikka S. Palmer, appeared in a woman suffrage magazine and shows the power that the suffragists were gaining.

Women Should Not Vote

1. Women do not want to vote.
2. Women are inferior to men—intellectually, morally, physically.
3. Voting will degrade women: the polls are not a fit place for mothers and wives.
4. Women know very little about government.
5. Women who vote will lose their polite manners and become loud and rude.
6. If women vote, black people will want to vote, too.
7. Women are already doing a lot for the country. There is no reason for them to do men's work plus their own.
8. Women can trust their fathers, brothers and husbands to make good decisions.

These are some of the reasons that appeared on posters, in newspaper articles, in books and speeches.

An Iowan's Life

Carrie Chapman Catt

LIKE CHILDREN EVERYWHERE, Carrie Clinton Lane—who would later be known as Carrie Chapman Catt—understood justice. She knew when people were being fair and when they weren't.

One day while she and her first-grade classmates were standing in a line, another girl had trouble with her underwear: the child's hoopskirt had come loose and slipped to the ground. The girl blushed, the boys giggled, and the teacher whisked the child and her problem clothing away. At noon, the boys teased the girl. Carrie didn't like that so she walked up to the leader of the group and slapped his face. "They had more respect for us girls after that," she said, years later.

Charles City—prairie town

Carrie Clinton Lane was born in Ripon, Wisconsin in 1859 and moved with her family to Iowa when she was seven. She had two brothers, one older and one younger. Carrie's father, Lucius [*LU-shus*], built a brick home a few miles from Charles City (population 500) on land they would call Spring Brook Stock Farm. Lucius planted maple saplings he'd brought from Wisconsin. Maples grew well in Iowa; many farmers harvested maple sugar along with corn and wheat.

Carrie's mother, Marie Clinton Lane, had gone to a college for women in Massachusetts (women were not yet allowed into most of the colleges that men attended), and her pleasure in reading was one of the things she taught her daughter. One of Carrie's greatest joys was to take a book to one of the maple trees, climb into the branches and perch for a while. Her dog followed, resting patiently at the base of the tree.

Carrie was to become one of America's best-known women in the early part of the 1900s. Her fame grew out of her ambitious activities for justice: justice for women and for minority groups, and peace for all the world. Now, she is most remembered for her work for woman suffrage.

A cat named Mr. Greeley

Carrie was thirteen before she realized that women couldn't vote. Her family had spent many hours that year—1872—discussing the coming election for President. The candidates were Ulysses S. Grant (general of the Union army during the Civil War) and Horace Greeley (a

Carrie attended high school here.

newspaper editor and teacher). Carrie had named four kittens after the candidates, and she named the handsomest after the man favored by her parents: Mr. Greeley. On election day, her father and the hired man [*farm helper*] dressed in good clothes to go to town to vote.

"Mother, why aren't you changing clothes?" Carrie asked. "Are you going to town in your work dress?"

Her mother laughed. "Why, Carrie, don't you know that women can't vote?"

Carrie was stunned. Years later she said, "I never forgot that rank injustice done to my mother. I verily [*truly*] believe I was born a suffragist."

Carrie's interest in politics and her delight with animals continued as she grew. Her parents probably influenced her in both matters. Her father ran for office several times when she was a teenager.

When she was younger she often brought animals or parts of them into the house. If you were a dinner guest at the Lanes, a turtle might climb over your foot during the meal. Her father finally got fed up. According to one story, he put his foot down when her collection of brains, which she kept in jars of alcohol, suddenly included a large one from a cow. Others have said that the day the rattlesnake eggs hatched in the kitchen marked the end of animals in the house. Her dad supposedly picked up both the snakes and the unhatched eggs and tossed them all into the wood stove.

After high school, Carrie wanted to go to college, but she knew her family didn't have extra money; crops had been poor for a few years. She earned most of the money needed for school, first by teaching, then by washing dishes and working in the library. During her time at Iowa State Agricultural College (now, Iowa State University), she caused two big changes.

SHSI, Iowa City

"Children are lucky to grow up upon a farm." — CCC

Carrie at six years and at fourteen.

ISU Library University Archives

College adventures

There were no exercise classes for women, although men were required to march and drill. Carrie asked the general who taught the drills if he would do the same for women. He welcomed the chance and told the women to make comfortable uniforms. For pretend rifles, he bought broom sticks at the local broom factory.

The second change was about speaking in public. In those days before television and movies, speech-making was a popular entertainment and a way to spread ideas. The Crescent Literary Society had weekly meetings where young men gave three-minute talks to practice their skills at quick thinking. The women

ISU Library-University Archives

The "Company G" photo here taken years after Carrie graduated from college.

were only allowed to recite memorized lines or read a short essay.

Carrie organized other friends, and the women formed their own society where they could speak out as the men did.

After college, Carrie studied law for a year and then moved to Mason City to teach, to become principal, and then became superintendent of schools.

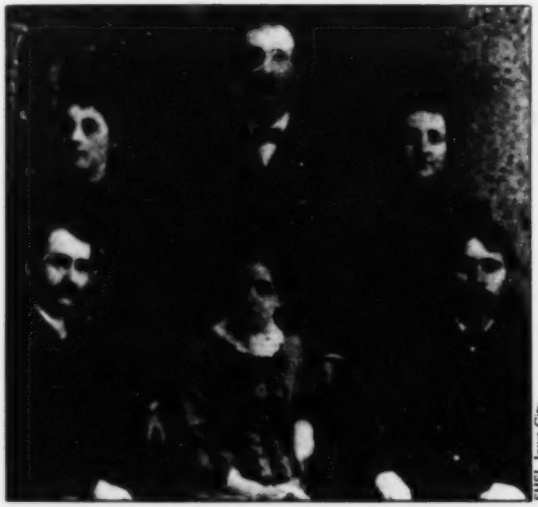
When she was 26, she married Leo Chapman, the new editor of the *Mason City Republican*. She went to work with him on the paper, writing and editing. (see p. 28)

Leo died less than two years later. Carrie moved to Charles City and bought a house where her younger brother could live while he attended high school. She became a professional speech-giver.

Working for Suffrage

Carrie began her active work for suffrage in 1885, when she attended conventions in Des Moines and Cedar Rapids. She met other women who wanted suffrage, and she spoke with Lucy Stone, a woman then in her 60s, who had worked for women's rights all her life. Stone lived in the East but she traveled the country giving talks on equality and suffrage. This would be the pattern of Carrie's life.

During her life, Carrie served 51 years as an officer in either a state or national group supporting suffrage. Seven of those years she was



SHSI, Iowa City

Carrie Lane with the other teachers in Mason City.

What makes people powerful?

WHEN WE HEAR ABOUT a famous person, we often wonder how he or she became powerful. People who knew Carrie Chapman Catt wrote about her talents. They said things like these:

Carrie knew how to use tact.

In other words, she could disagree with someone's ideas without making them feel bad. (She did *not* use tact when she hit the boy in the first grade.)

Carrie knew how to organize.

She often worked on very big projects, but she figured out how to divide them into smaller projects.

Carrie knew how to speak in public.

She enjoyed speaking in public because she believed in what she was saying. Practice helps, too. One year Carrie walked on California beaches and practiced giving speeches to the loud waves as they crashed on the sand.

Carrie knew how to be persistent.

She didn't expect big changes to happen fast. She knew that she had to keep working day after day, month after month, year after year. It can take a long time to convince people that your ideas are good ideas.

Carrie had a good sense of humor.

She joked in her letters and in her speeches. Even though she had a serious goal, she knew how important laughter was.

Carrie knew how to imagine practical solutions.

She wasn't afraid to invent ways to solve her problems. When she wanted to go to college, she found ways to earn money. When the college girls had no exercise program, she persuaded General Geddes to start one. □

president of the largest national group, the National American Woman Suffrage Association. She spoke in every county in Iowa, in dozens of states, and eventually in many countries around the world. She married a second time, though reluctantly. (see p. 15)

Her last trip to Iowa was on Mother's Day, 1936 for a ceremony in Des Moines. The Iowa Memorial Suffrage Commission—a group founded in 1922 by women who had worked for suffrage—raised money for a memorial to honor all of the women who had worked so long and hard to gain the vote. The sculpture was designed by Iowa native Nellie Walker and was dedicated by Catt on that day in 1936. It is in the hallway of the state capitol.

Catt was 61 when women gained suffrage. Catt wrote about the ballot: "Prize it . . . Understand what it means and what it can do for the country."

A Birthday Party

She had worked for the vote for many years, but when it was won, she didn't retire.

She organized an international women's suffrage group and arranged for conventions on "The Cause and Cure of War."

Her 80th birthday party was held at the Hotel Astor in New York City. More than 500 people came. For an hour she told both serious and humorous stories about women's century-long struggle for civil rights, education, and the vote. Many things, she said, still needed to be done in this "limping, crochety old world," including the end of war.

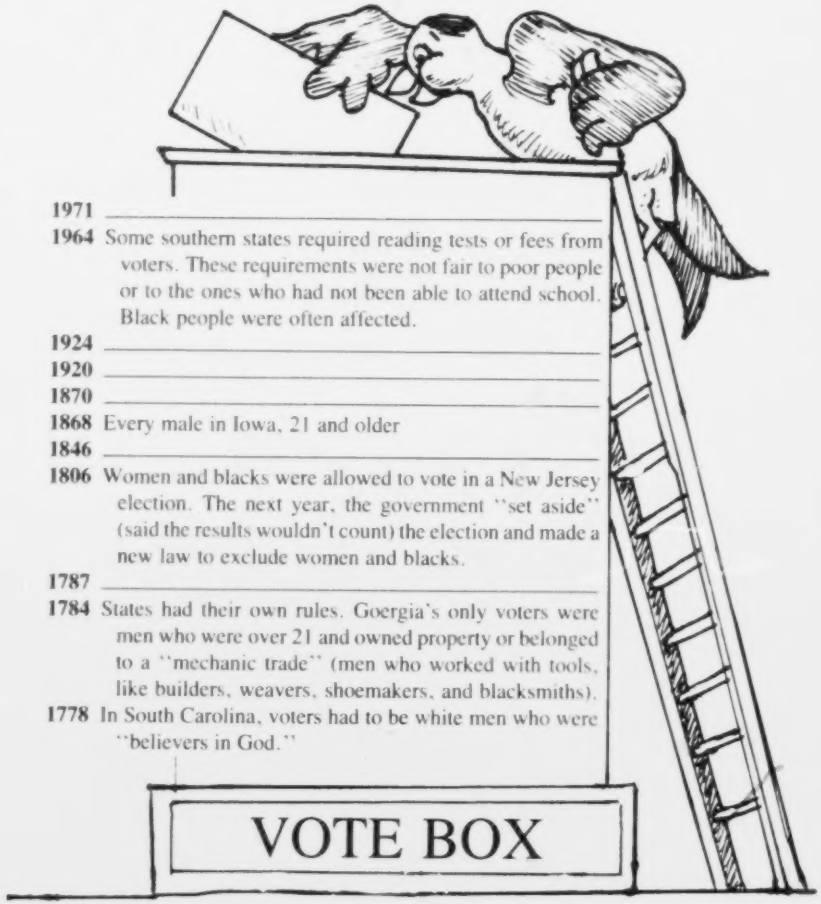
Carrie Chapman Catt died in 1947. She was 88 years old. □

Who can vote when?

In these times, when almost everyone over the age of 18 can vote in elections, we forget that it wasn't always this way. During some times, only men could vote; other times only white men could vote. There has never been a government election where everybody in the country could vote.

In 1988, in Minnesota, a legislator introduced a bill to allow 12 year-olds to vote. It was defeated.

Match the year on the ballot box to the group listed below. Some blanks have been filled in to help you.


1971 _____
1964 Some southern states required reading tests or fees from voters. These requirements were not fair to poor people or to the ones who had not been able to attend school. Black people were often affected.
1924 _____
1920 _____
1870 _____
1868 Every male in Iowa, 21 and older
1846 _____
1806 Women and blacks were allowed to vote in a New Jersey election. The next year, the government "set aside" (said the results wouldn't count) the election and made a new law to exclude women and blacks.
1787 _____
1784 States had their own rules. Goergia's only voters were men who were over 21 and owned property or belonged to a "mechanic trade" (men who worked with tools, like builders, weavers, shoemakers, and blacksmiths).
1778 In South Carolina, voters had to be white men who were "believers in God."
VOTE BOX

Match people and years

A. Women, 21 and older, all races except Native Americans
B. Native American men and women, 21 and older
C. Men, usually white, property-owners, not Catholic or Jewish
D. Men of all races, 21 and older, except Native Americans
E. All citizens, 18 and older
F. White men in Iowa, 21 and older

The suffrage movement in Iowa

SHSI, Iowa City

by Doretta Watson

THE STORY OF SUFFRAGE in Iowa is a story of patience and persistence. The men and women who believed in their cause grew tired, but they followed their motto: "Never give up."

The year 1848 marks the best-known beginning of American women's active work for the vote. In that year, Elizabeth Cady Stanton and Lucretia Mott organized the first convention for women's rights in Seneca Falls, New York. The purpose of the gathering was to "discuss the social, civil and religious condition and rights of women."

A famous paper from that meeting is "The Declaration of Sentiments," which sounds like "The Declaration of Independence" except that it is about women.

Interest in woman suffrage began to grow all over the country, but the Civil War interrupted organized activities.

Women and the Iowa Government

In June 1870, Iowans who wanted woman suffrage met in Mount Pleasant. Hundreds of others who were curious about this unusual activity came to watch. By the end of the convention, some of the men and women formed a group for the state, the Iowa Woman Suffrage Association.

During the next fifty years, many groups of women met and formed suffrage clubs in their towns to educate themselves about government and politics. These women worked for a change in state law. (Other women, meanwhile, spent their time trying to get a new Amendment for the U.S. Constitution.)

The Iowa women gave speeches, wrote letters, organized conventions, published leaflets and newspapers, wrote articles and songs, and produced plays.

Women from the suffrage clubs also talked to members of the senate and house committees at each session of the state assembly. (These assemblies of the state met every two years.)

Sometimes the state house of representatives would approve a proposed amendment, and the senate would vote "no," or vice versa. As long as the legislature (both the senate and house of representatives) said no, the voters of Iowa could not have a referendum, which is a state-wide election for all voters to vote on an issue.

In 1900, suffragists took petitions all over the state for voters to sign if they favored a referendum on woman suffrage. They gathered 100,000 signatures. But the state assembly still said no to the referendum.

After many more years of waiting and asking, a referendum was held. The year was 1916. There were more than 300,000 votes cast, and the woman suffrage amendment lost by about 10,000. The suffragists were deeply disappointed, and their disappointment grew as they heard rumors of illegal voting. Many people thought the law had been broken in many cities, but the ballots had been thrown away. Nothing could be proved.

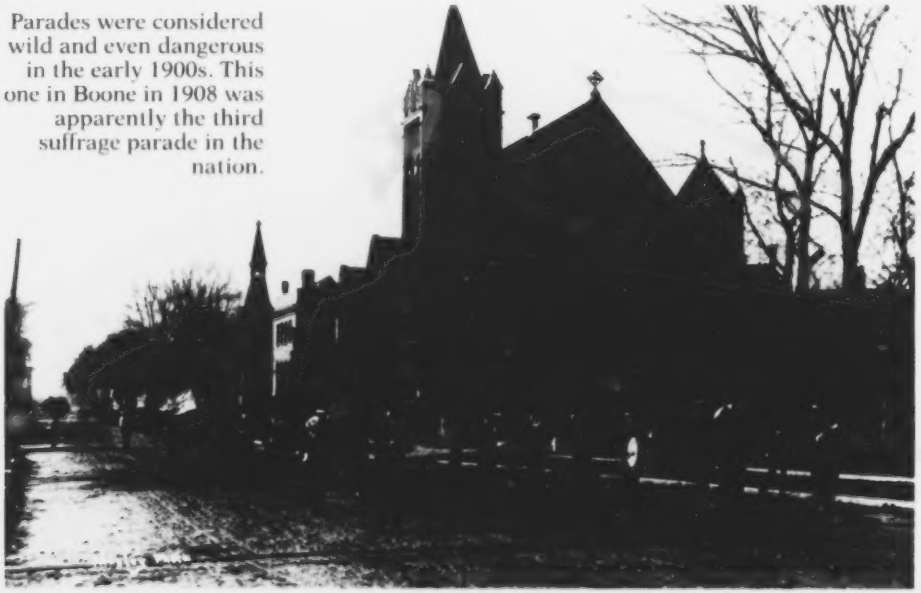
Suffragists or Suffragettes

During the early 1900s, woman suffrage groups became more public. Activities such as parades and picket lines were first held in England by angry suffragists. The press nicknamed the women "suffragettes," and the British women kept the name. American women wanted to be called suffragists.

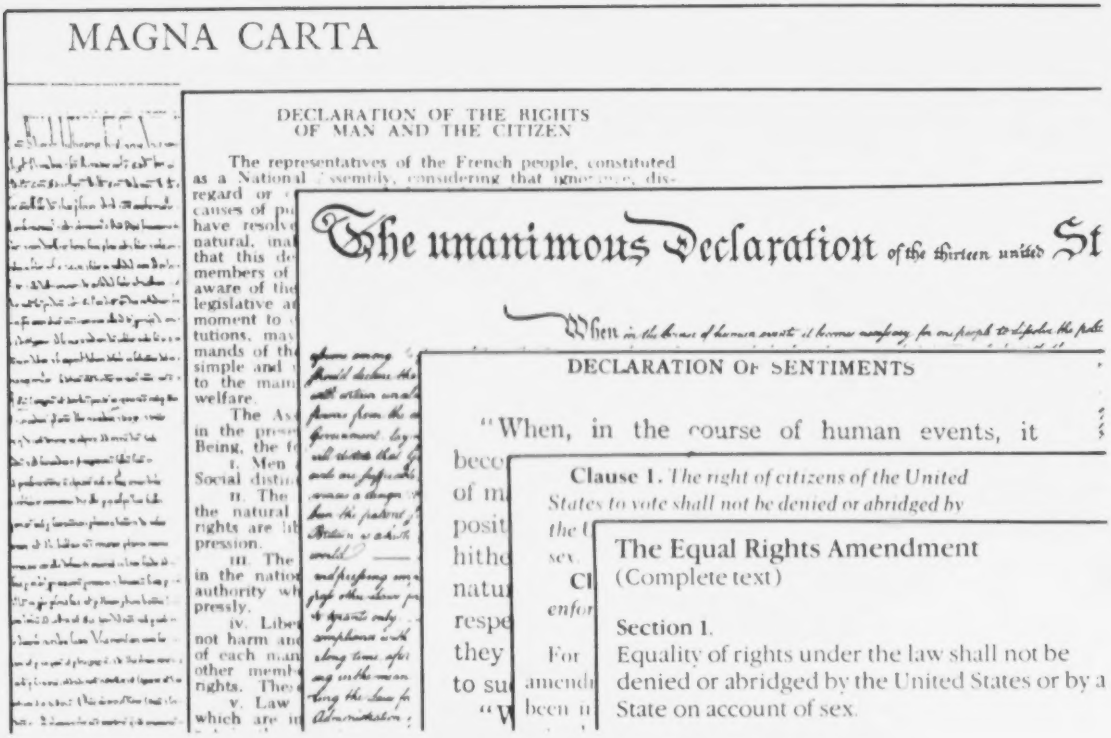
The efforts of the suffragists and their supporters were rewarded in July 1919. The Senate and House in Washington, D.C. approved the woman suffrage amendment to the Constitution. Next, 36 state governments had to ratify [*vote in favor of*] it. The last state to do so was Tennessee on August 19, 1920. A week later, August 26, 1920, the U.S. Secretary of State proclaimed the Nineteenth Amendment the law of the land. Women could finally vote everywhere in America.

Mrs. Catt wrote, "That vote of yours has cost millions of dollars and the lives of thousands of women . . . Prize it . . . Understand what it means and what it can do for your country." □

Parades were considered wild and even dangerous in the early 1900s. This one in Boone in 1908 was apparently the third suffrage parade in the nation.



SHSI, Iowa City


MAGNA CARTA
DECLARATION OF THE RIGHTS OF MAN AND THE CITIZEN
The representatives of the French people, constituted as a National Assembly, considering that ignorance, disregard or
The unanimous Declaration of the thirteen united St
When in the course of human events, it becomes necessary
DECLARATION OF SENTIMENTS
"When, in the course of human events, it
Clause 1. The right of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by
The Equal Rights Amendment
(Complete text)
Section 1.
Equality of rights under the law shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by a State on account of sex.

Documents of justice

Which is which?

THESE DOCUMENTS have helped change the world. The words in each one have declared the importance of freedom and justice.

1776 - This American document caused a war.

1920 - Women needed this right in order to become full citizens.

1215 - This British document freed citizens from illegal taxes and gave them many rights.

1848 - Women wrote this to show their goals for equality.

1789 - The French people demanded their rights with this piece of paper.

???? - This Amendment has been submitted to the U.S. Congress many times during the past 100 years.

Men who worked for suffrage

WHEN YOU WANT SOMETHING from adults—like a ride to a friend's house—you have to persuade them to take you. If they don't agree, they'll say no.

In order for women to gain suffrage, they had to persuade the voting men that it was a good idea. Some men agreed with the women, but some thought it would cause horrible problems.

One early supporter was Henry O'Connor. As a young man in Muscatine, he belonged to a debate club and argued for woman suffrage. He became a lawyer and served as Iowa's Attorney General from 1866 to 1870. In 1870, he was elected the first president of the Iowa Woman Suffrage Association. Later, when the cause became unpopular, he withdrew his support.

Many of the men who worked for equal rights were lawyers or editors of newspapers. John Loomis bought the *Buchanan County Bulletin* in 1865. After the Civil War, he was one of the first Iowa editors to endorse suffrage for women.

When Loomis went to the state Republican convention in 1867, he asked the group to approve a statement that supported equal rights, protection, and privileges to all people with no regard for color, sex or race. About twelve people agreed; the others jeered and laughed.

Another, whose name is still known by many, was Harvey Ingham, the first editor of the *Des Moines Register and Leader*. He wrote many articles about the value of women voting.

Other supporters included Governor George W. Clarke (elected in 1912) and Corydon E. Fuller, one of the founders of Drake University.

Women could never have won the vote if men hadn't believed in their cause.

SHSI, Des Moines

Harvey Ingham

The case of a turncoat

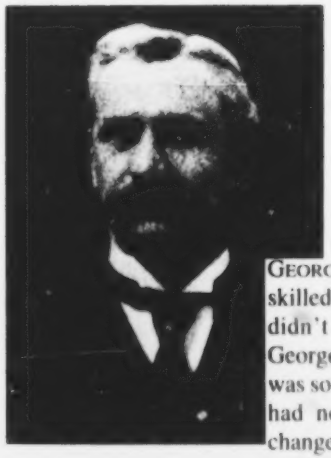
John P. Irish (born in 1843) was a teacher in Iowa City. He was elected to the Iowa House and helped change laws about school boards so that board members were not elected through partisan politics. In other words, it no longer mattered if they were Democrats or Republicans.

For many years, Irish spoke out in favor of women's right to vote. But he changed his mind. When he was 73 and living in California, he returned to Iowa for the 1916 statewide vote on suffrage. The liquor businesses paid him to tour the state and speak out against suffrage. □

Mr. Chapman and Mr. Catt

TWO IMPORTANT MEN who supported suffrage for women were Carrie Chapman Catt's husbands.

SHSI, Iowa City



GEORGE CATT was an engineer, a skilled designer of bridges. Carrie didn't want to marry again, but George persuaded her. He said he was so busy planning bridges that he had no time to work on society changes such as suffrage.

Since he made lots of money and had no time to work for good causes, he wanted to support Carrie in her work. Then she wouldn't have to use her time earning money. Before their marriage in June 1890, they signed an agreement which said Carrie could take two months in the fall and two months in the spring to devote fully to the suffrage movement.

She worked much more than that, but apparently George didn't mind. He was a very generous man who believed in her work.

They lived in Seattle, Boston and the New York City area. George Catt died in 1905 from gall bladder problems. □

LEO CHAPMAN was a newspaper man. After he worked for the *Des Moines Register* for four years, he bought the *Mason City Republican*, a paper that was printed once a week.

Like Carrie, he was eager to improve the world. A newspaper is a powerful tool to change ideas in a community. Before the election of 1885, Chapman used his paper to accuse a candidate of using taxpayers' money for his own purposes. The man and his friends were angry. After the election, which the man won, a lot of people wanted Leo Chapman to leave town. He needed to escape, so he went to California to look for another paper to buy.

Carrie stayed back to visit her parents for a while. She soon received a letter saying Leo was ill with typhoid. She took the next train west, but he died before she reached him.

They were married less than two years.

Time-line

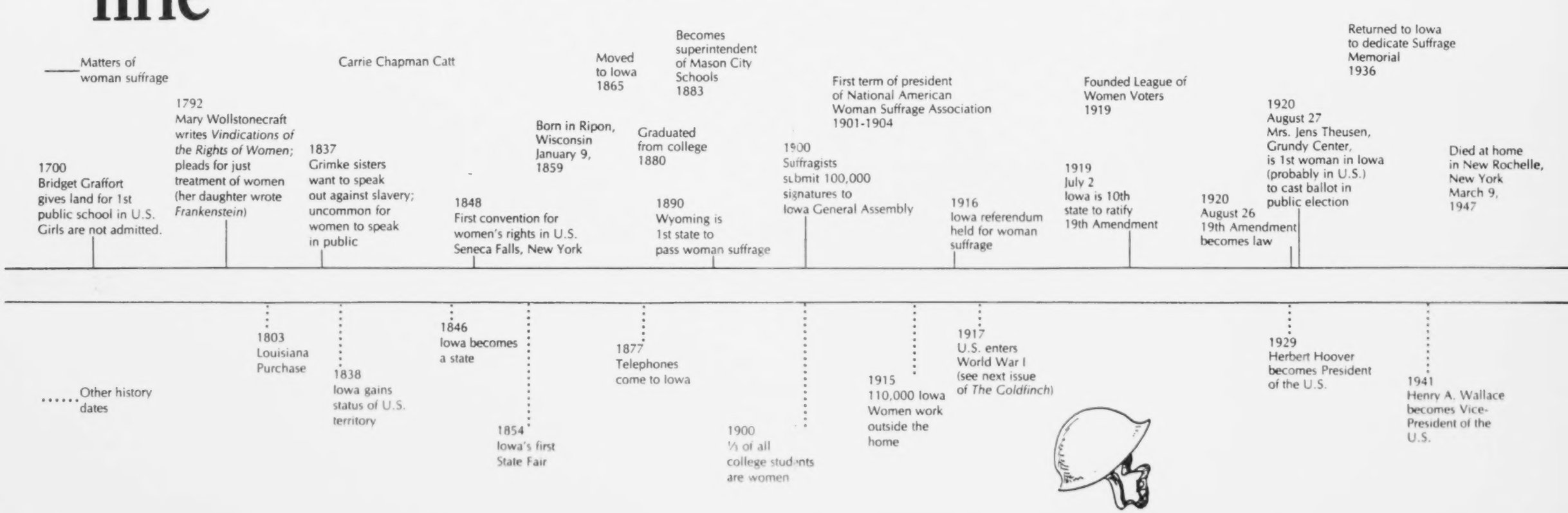
WHAT IT IS: A MAP OF HISTORY

A timeline allows us to look quickly at some events that took place over many years.

WHAT IT IS NOT: A ROW OF DOMINOES

When we see things lined up, it's easy to think that one event caused the next one. Often events are not directly tied to each other. If you eat chicken soup for lunch and fried chicken for dinner, your dinner was probably not caused by your lunch, especially if you don't like chicken. Even if you do like chicken, eating it twice in one day may be a coincidence.

Events are often connected to each other, but that doesn't mean one thing alone causes something else. However, you can imagine that some events wouldn't happen before others. □


Matters of woman suffrage
Other history dates
1700
Bridget Graffort gives land for 1st public school in U.S. Girls are not admitted.
1792
Mary Wollstonecraft writes *Vindications of the Rights of Women;* pleads for just treatment of women (her daughter wrote *Frankenstein*)
1803
Louisiana Purchase
1837
Grimke sisters want to speak out against slavery; uncommon for women to speak in public
1838
Iowa gains status of U.S. territory
1846
Iowa becomes a state
1848
First convention for women's rights in U.S. Seneca Falls, New York
1854
Iowa's first State Fair
Born in Ripon, Wisconsin January 9, 1859
Carrie Chapman Catt
Graduated from college 1880
Moved to Iowa 1865
Becomes superintendent of Mason City Schools 1883
1877
Telephones come to Iowa
1890
Wyoming is 1st state to pass woman suffrage
1900
Suffragists submit 100,000 signatures to Iowa General Assembly
1900
⅓ of all college students are women
First term of president of National American Woman Suffrage Association 1901-1904
1915
110,000 Iowa Women work outside the home
1916
Iowa referendum held for woman suffrage
1917
U.S. enters World War I (see next issue of *The Goldfinch*)
Founded League of Women Voters 1919
1919
July 2
Iowa is 10th state to ratify 19th Amendment
1920
August 26
19th Amendment becomes law
1920
August 27
Mrs. Jens Theusen, Grundy Center, is 1st woman in Iowa (probably in U.S.) to cast ballot in public election
1929
Herbert Hoover becomes President of the U.S.
Returned to Iowa to dedicate Suffrage Memorial 1936
Died at home in New Rochelle, New York March 9, 1947
1941
Henry A. Wallace becomes Vice-President of the U.S.

Would you want a _____ waved in your face?

When Carrie was a young girl, she and her friends had a problem. Her brother and some boys at school were teasing the girls with something. The girls ran away. Carrie decided to get back at the boys.

She decided that if the thing didn't hurt the boys, it wouldn't hurt her. She found one and threw it around her brother's neck. No more teasing.

What was the something? ☐

Q	W	E	R	U	I	O	P	S	U	F	F	R	A	G	E	L	K	J	H
J	V	K	L	C	H	A	R	L	E	S	C	I	T	Y	C	B	L	X	P
D	W	K	L	P	B	M	T	G	H	M	A	S	O	N	C	I	T	Y	I
M	N	L	P	B	L	O	O	M	E	R	C	O	S	T	U	M	E	R	F
F	G	U	I	Y	L	T	W	R	E	Q	A	S	T	O	R	C	R	O	G
M	L	F	G	H	S	T	E	N	N	E	S	S	E	E	W	O	I	U	X
G	H	J	W	Q	L	O	O	M	I	S	M	L	W	P	R	O	E	J	R
F	M	L	W	O	I	R	I	S	H	M	Q	K	L	W	P	S	D	O	Q
W	D	W	O	M	A	N	S	W	O	R	L	D	K	L	P	Q	E	C	F
A	R	T	I	F	A	C	T	S	M	L	W	P	D	F	J	V	Z	X	P
M	K	E	E	D	R	E	S	S	Z	O	G	H	T	J	Q	P	L	K	L
K	O	Z	T	O	R	S	U	P	E	R	I	N	T	E	N	D	E	N	T
F	M	L	L	W	S	W	I	T	Z	E	R	L	A	N	D	M	K	Q	I
Z	P	T	E	S	C	H	O	O	L	B	O	A	R	D	M	K	W	O	R
M	W	R	D	E	S	M	O	I	N	E	S	Y	O	P	X	K	V	T	D
W	M	L	K	D	G	G	S	E	N	E	C	A	P	G	R	A	F	W	T
W	P	D	P	U	B	L	I	C	S	P	E	A	K	I	N	G	W	M	D
Y	U	I	E	P	R	L	C	A	U	S	E	G	H	T	O	C	V	P	H
O	M	C	P	D	L	P	R	E	S	I	D	E	N	T	F	R	H	P	M
L	V	C	C	C	M	O	P	S	E	N	T	I	M	E	N	T	S	P	W

To find out the **something**:

1. Answer the questions.
2. Find the answers in the letters above.
3. Turn to page 31 for the final clue.

The right to vote is called _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _.

In 1865, a boy might wear a _ _ _ _ _.

Carrie was a principal in this Iowa town. _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _.

The loose dress with pantaloons named for a suffragist is a _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _.

In college, Carrie made two changes for women; one was exercise and the other was _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _.

36th state to ratify 19th Amendment. _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _.

Carrie grew up near _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _, Iowa.

Editor who supported suffrage after the Civil War. _ _ _ _ _ _ _

A turncoat: first he supported suffrage, and then he turned against it. _ _ _ _ _ _

Carrie wrote this column for the Mason City newspaper. _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _.

The name for things people make or use is _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _.

In Mason City, Carrie was principal and _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ of schools.

A recent country to pass woman suffrage is _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _.

Carrie's 80th birthday party was at the Hotel _ _ _ _ _.

Flora Dunlap was the first woman in Iowa to serve on a _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _.

The first American convention for women's rights was held in _ _ _ _ _ _ Falls, New York.

Carrie worked for peace and organized conferences on "The _ _ _ _ _ and Cure of War."

The capital of Iowa is _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _.

In 1872, Victoria Woodhull was the first woman to run for _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _.

One result of the women's rights convention in New York state was "The Declaration of _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _."

19

Women who worked for the vote

by Mary Hummel

From 1848 to 1920, women all over the United States worked for a law that would give women the right to vote. In Iowa, many women wanted to vote, but only some of them worked for the right. It wasn't easy to favor woman suffrage. A lot of men and women believed that everything was fine.

When we look back on a piece of history, we often see a tidy event—many people working for one goal. The truth is much more complicated. As you know from your own lives, being on a team or organizing a party or working together on a science project can be difficult. People disagree about the best ways to do things and they disagree about what's important. In Iowa's struggle for suffrage, there were many disagreements, but the women still accomplished a lot.

A few of the active women in Iowa's early suffrage work were:

Belle Mansfield of Mount Pleasant, who became a teacher and then was the first woman in the nation admitted to the practice of law.

Annie Savery worked for suffrage in the state and in Des Moines. She began the Polk County Woman Suffrage Society. In 1868, she gave a talk in the Des Moines Court House about suffrage. Many

SHSI, Des Moines

of her friends disapproved. Women rarely gave public lectures in those times, except on behalf of charities.

Martha Callanan and her husband were both active in the movement for suffrage. She began the *Woman's Standard*, the Iowa newspaper for suffrage news.

Mary Jane Coggeshall, Des Moines, served as both president of the Iowa Equal Suffrage Association and editor of the *Women's Standard*. Carrie Chapman Catt was greatly inspired by Mrs. Coggeshall and called her "the Mother of Woman Suffrage in Iowa."

Amelia Bloomer moved to Council Bluffs in 1855 after she had become famous for wearing a looser style of dress that came to be called the "Bloomer costume." She was the second president of the state suffrage group, but her main contribution to suffrage activities lay in her endless writings on the subject.

Flora Dunlap was president of the state suffrage group and first president of the Iowa League of Women Voters in 1919. Before coming to Iowa, she had worked with Jane Addams in Chicago at Hull House, and she started another settlement house in Des Moines.

Most of the women listed above organized activities in the years after the Civil War. These early groups educated many followers. One of these women, of course, was Carrie Chapman Catt. □

What can we learn from things that don't talk?

by Elise Schebler Dawson
Michael O. Smith

WHAT DO YOU SEE when you go to a museum? Probably you would answer "exhibits." The exhibits are what most visitors see. But this is only one function of a museum. Museums also collect and study objects, some of which will go on exhibit.

Museums, like many people, have collections. A collection is a group of objects, gathered because they have some meaning and then placed in a particular order. Some children collect baseball cards, others collect stones or stamps. The Iowa State Historical Museum gathers collections that are meaningful to Iowa's history and to people who study the state. Collections are used to interpret (*explain*) the past, the present, and sometimes the future.

The individual objects in the collection are called artifacts. An artifact is a thing that is used by humans or produced and shaped by human workmanship. Artifacts are much more than just "old things" or "antiques." An artifact may be old—even antique—but its true importance is what the artifact can tell us about itself, the people who used it, and, sometimes, about ourselves.

So how do you look at an artifact? How do you make it "tell" you its story? The artifact won't just give you the answer, but if you ask the right questions, you can discover a lot. Here are some questions to "ask" artifacts.

1. How were you made?
What is it made of, how was it constructed, where was it made?

2. How were you used?
Who used this object and when was it used?

3. What was your environment?
Did it exist in a house, a barn, a school, outside?

4. Have your related artifacts changed through time?
Are similar objects that we use today changed from when this object was in use? How? Why?

5. What influenced the way you look?
Why is the object designed the way it is?

6. What do you mean in your *own* culture?

7. What do you mean to *our* culture?

These questions will help you interpret artifacts.

Let's ask these questions of an artifact at the Iowa State Historical Museum in Des Moines.

How can we read a dress?

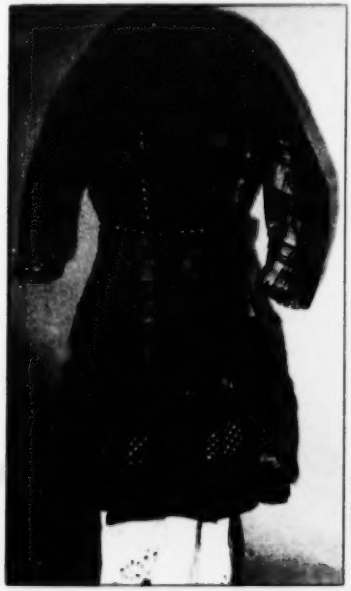
In our collection is a child's three-piece dress from about 1865. This was given to the museum with the information that it was worn by the donor's grandfather as a boy in the 1860s. A boy wearing a dress?

The dress has a blouse, a skirt, and pantaloons. Looking closely at the fabric, we see that the weave is straight and even. This tells us that the dress is made from a commercially produced fabric, so the cloth was not woven at home. While the seams are made by a machine, there are a lot of

hand-sewn details. This tells us that it was probably sewn at home.

From this beginning we can say that commercially produced cloth was available in Iowa in the 1860s; it was not necessary for a mother to weave her own cloth. What can we learn from the fact that the outfit was hand-made? We can imagine that ready-made clothing was not easily available, or that it was more economical to sew at home, or perhaps the sewer took pleasure in creating this dress.

The size of the artifact tells us that it was worn by a child. But a boy? We could just say that the donor was wrong: after all, boys don't wear dresses. But remember, this was over 100 years ago. What could this mean? Is it possible that young boys and girls were dressed alike in the 1860s? Read on!



SHSI, Des Moines

In what environment did this clothing exist? This particular outfit is not worn-out, and it's fancy. It was probably meant as "good" clothing, for activities in a parlor or church rather than at school, in a field, or other work areas.

Has this type of clothing changed over the years? This means: has children's clothing changed since the 1860s? Yes, little boys now wear pants and little girls wear both dresses and pants. Children's clothing has become less restrictive; it is not tightly fitted like this outfit.

By looking at magazines from the time period, such as *Godey's Ladies Book*, we can understand the design. The full skirt is similar to the full-skirted fashions for women in 1860. Plaids were very popular in clothing and the colors are common for that time.

So what does this outfit mean to its time period? Boys and girls were dressed alike until they were about four. They were looked upon as children instead of boy children and girl children. This was an idea left from the 1700s, when children were expected to act like little adults. But by the 1860s, children were treated separate from adults. They received more strict discipline than they do today.

What can we learn about our lives? One thing we can think about is how differently we treat children today. While we often dress young boys and girls in similar clothes, most clothing is practical for tumbling around. Even dress clothing is usually loose fitting and made of easy-care fabrics. After all, kids will be kids.

You can ask these same questions of any artifact you have. Everything we learn gives us a better idea of how people lived in the past, helps us understand how we live today, and guides us in predicting how we may live tomorrow. □

Match item with information

Suffrage Scrapbook

A SCRAPBOOK IS A WONDERFUL PLACE to gather programs, small objects (especially when they're flat), newspaper articles, and pictures. When you look back through a scrapbook from a year in your life, you find that the objects bring old memories to life.

This page has objects that are related to Carrie Chapman Catt or to Iowa's struggle for woman suffrage. Draw a line from the objects to the descriptions. □

In order to vote on the Woman Suffrage Amendment it is not necessary to declare your political affiliations, therefore will you *please* go to the polls this afternoon and vote

NO

on the Woman Suffrage Amendment

DUBUQUE ASSOCIATION **OPPOSED** TO WOMAN SUFFRAGE

SHSI, Iowa City

This is on a farm outside of Charles City. Small animals of many kinds were brought here by a girl who would grow up to be quite famous.

This is from a country where Carrie Chapman Catt helped woman suffrage become part of the law.

2.3

This shows one of the arguments in favor of women voting.

Here is an outfit that sent people into a rage. Such wild clothing was expected to turn the world on its head.

GIVE MOTHER THE VOTE
WE NEED IT
VOTES FOR OUR MOTHERS
OUR FOOD OUR HEALTH OUR PLAY
OUR HOMES OUR SCHOOLS OUR WORK
ARE RULED BY MEN'S VOTES
Isn't it a funny thing
That Father cannot see
Why Mother ought to have a vote
On how these things should be?
THINK IT OVER

This 1948 item honors 100 years of progress for American women. The women on the left and right were the main organizers of the women's rights convention held at Seneca Falls in 1848.

These were posted in Dubuque at one time.

What would the law let you do?

If you were a woman in 1880 . . .

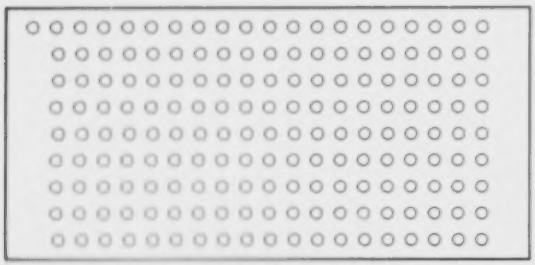
In 1880, Carrie was 21 years old. People who are 21 now can do many things, but they can't be elected to the House of Representatives or the Senate or be President.

Read the list below and decide whether you think adult women could do these things in 1880. When you've finished, fold page 26 over to the dotted line to see if the history books agree with you.

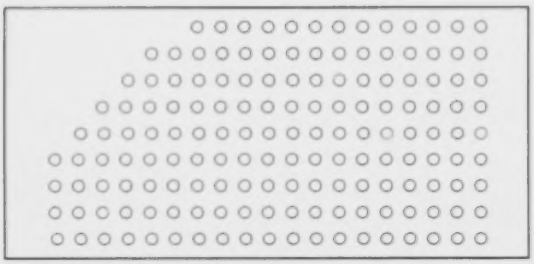
In 1880, could an Iowa woman—

	YES	NO
Vote for governor?	___	___
Run for President?	___	___
Be elected county superintendent of schools?	___	___
Practice law?	___	___
Expect to inherit her husband's property, if he died without leaving a will?	___	___
Write a will that gave all of her property to her younger brother?	___	___
Serve on school boards?	___	___

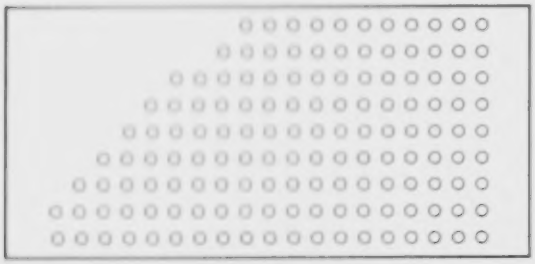
Where in the world can women vote now?



1880



1920



1940

1984

DID YOU KNOW that there are still many countries in the world where women can not vote?

Each rectangle is a symbol for a year in history. The dots in the squares each stand for one country. The dots with yellow are for the countries where all adult women are allowed to vote.

In the countries where women can't vote, other kinds of laws exist. Sometimes certain women can vote—for instance, if they own property or are of a particular race. Sometimes neither women nor men are allowed to vote. The first country to pass woman suffrage was New Zealand in 1893. The most recent countries to grant suffrage to women are Jordan, Lichtenstein, and Switzerland. □

YES Although it was rare, women ran for President before they could vote. Victoria Woodhull was the first woman to run for president (1872). She knew the campaign was hopeless, but she wanted to make her ideas about freedom famous.

YES Carrie "read" law, which was how people often became lawyers then. It meant they worked with lawyers, read court cases, and learned about the law in that way.

NO Women couldn't vote for governor in Iowa until after August 26, 1920, the date when they won the right to vote in all government elections.

YES In 1869, Julia Addington was elected school superintendent in Mitchell County. When people questioned her right to serve, Attorney General Henry O'Connor said she was indeed eligible for the office. Such a ruling was the first in the country. In 1876, the state law was set to allow both men and women to run.

NO Four Des Moines women ran for school boards in 1871. They received many votes. In one of the elections, two women tied. A man who had received ten votes fewer was given the position.

Not until 1912 was there a woman on an Iowa school board. The woman was Flora Dunlap.

YES The Iowa code of 1873, which was the first full set of laws for Iowans to live by, gave married women the right to control both their property and wages. It also gave them the right to will their possessions to whomever they chose. (In 1851, married women were given control of the real estate they owned.)

NO Until 1913, a widow would receive only half of her husband's property. If there were children, she received one third of the property. The rest would go to other relatives.

Why is this issue so full of **yellow**?

As you know, colors are often used as symbols. Think of products you buy or holiday colors such as black and orange or red, white and blue.

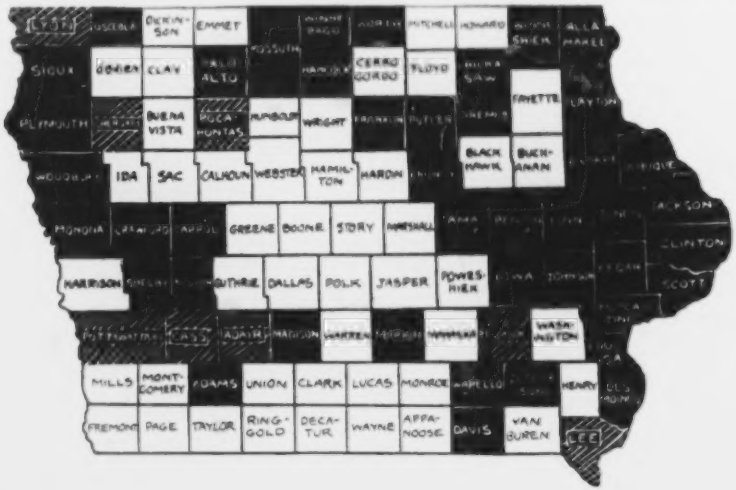
Colors are used to help people feel that they are part of a group, or to remind them of some idea in the culture. When you watch a parade, you see groups of people wearing the same color, often marching in step.

Look at car door handles in your town where Mothers Against Drunk Driving have urged drivers to attach red ribbons to remind drivers of the importance of driving sober.

Begun by a woman in St. Louis, the suffragists adopted the color yellow and used it in clothing, as decorations at banquets and conventions, on parade banners and even for umbrellas. □

Rosie's Map

IOWA—WHERE SUFFRAGE WAS DEFEATED BY 10,000 VOTES AND 47 VARIETIES OF FRAUD



THIS 1916 MAP shows the results of the 1916 referendum by county. The yellow counties are those where woman suffrage won, the black counties where it lost, and the striped counties where it won, but just barely.

What do you know about the history of suffrage in your county? Ask someone who's lived there a long time, and write us about it. □

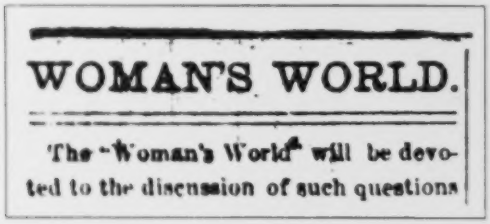
Carrie's work in journalism

"No poodle dogs, hair pins and ice-cream eaters"

by Diana Saluri

THE WOMEN OF MASON CITY must have been surprised when they opened their weekly newspaper on March 1, 1885. That was the day Carrie Chapman's first column appeared in the *Mason City Republican*. (A column is an opinion that appears regularly in a newspaper.) Carrie's column announced that she would *not* write about the usual subjects on women's pages—"poodle dogs, hairpins and ice-cream eaters." Instead she wrote about the lives and rights of women.

Carrie began writing the column, called "The Woman's World," when she was 25 years old.


WOMAN'S WORLD.

The "Woman's World" will be devoted to the discussion of such questions

Strong Opinions

In her very first column, Carrie showed her views. She urged mothers to make sure that their daughters learned a job skill so they could support themselves. This was unusual because at that time most women were expected to marry and be supported by their husbands. Carrie advised mothers to teach a daughter "to be a woman and not a mere doll-baby."

In other columns, Carrie wrote about other ways that society put pressure on women to behave in certain ways. She argued that the "habit of calling a girl who remains unmarried until 25 an 'old maid'" forced many young women to marry before they were ready.

Carrie also had something to say about how women were expected to dress. She complained that fashion designers "crowd the form [*body*] into a stiff corset, preventing a natural breathing even when not worn so tight as to cause greater injury." She also said that designers "put thin shoes upon the feet and a tiny bonnet upon the head, which serves no protection from wind or cold."

As you would expect, Carrie wrote many columns on woman suffrage. She argued for the intelligence and the good judgment of women. She was also witty when she made fun of some of the sillier reasons given why women shouldn't vote. For instance, she mocked a man who said that he was afraid that if women could vote, "many a man would repeat his vote under the disguise of a woman's bonnet and veil."

Making the headlines

In later years, as she became an active leader in the fight for women's rights, she herself was in newspaper headlines in the United States and around the world.

In 1926 Carrie's picture was on the cover of *Time* magazine. The *Time* story described her as "the person most likely to be named when an old time suffragist is asked, 'What woman could be president of the United States?'"

Between 1925 and 1940, Carrie was also the only woman on five lists of the most famous American women. Others on these lists included Chicago social worker Jane Addams, pilot Amelia Earhart, and writer Harriet Beecher Stowe.

By the end of her career, Carrie had spoken on every continent and in nearly every country. She helped women get the vote in 26 countries. □

A puzzle for number-lovers

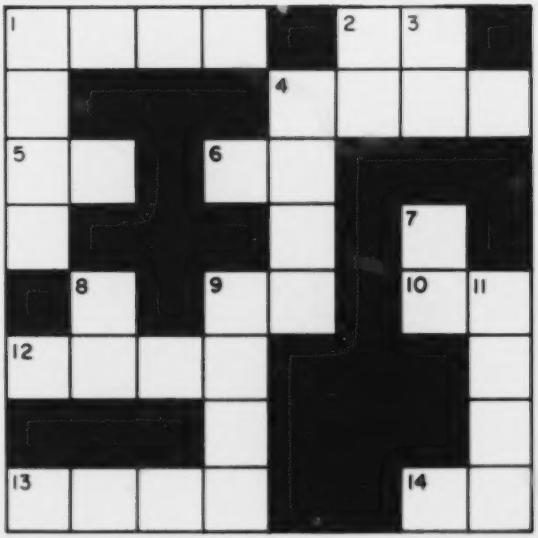
How much and when?

ACROSS

1. In what year did Carrie Chapman Catt die?
2. The ___th Amendment gives American women the right to vote.
4. You will vote for the first time in ____.
5. How many states are there in the United States of America?
6. At what age can Americans vote?
9. How old was Carrie when she learned women could not vote?
10. How old was Carrie when American women gained suffrage?
12. In ____, the Seneca Falls Convention was held; it marked the beginning of American activities on behalf woman suffrage.
13. In ____, the woman suffrage amendment became part of the U.S. Constitution.
14. How many states had to ratify the woman suffrage amendment before it could become the law of the land?

DOWN

1. In ____, Carrie Chapman Catt was born.
2. The number of the woman suffrage amendment.
3. How many Iowa counties did Carrie give speeches in?



Kay Chambers

Answers on page 31

4. What was the year of the Louisiana purchase?
7. In how many countries did Carrie help women get the vote?
8. How old was Carrie when she died?
9. In ____, the Iowa Woman Suffrage Association was formed in Mount Pleasant. Later the group changed its name to the Iowa Equal Suffrage Association.
11. In ____, Iowa gained statehood.

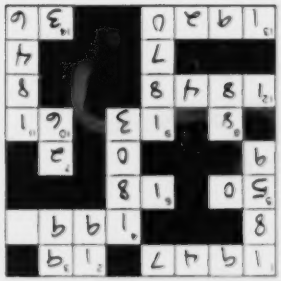
History Makers

1 Choose an object that someone in your family owns or uses. Ask it the list of questions in the article about artifacts. Write us a letter, telling us about your discoveries.

2 Are there people in your school or community trying to change a law or custom? How are they getting support? What kinds of activities are they involved in? Are you part of the group or are you an observer? Write a letter and tell us about it.

3 Have you read a good book about an Iowan lately? We'd love to hear a few sentences about it. Send us a postcard.

Answers
p.10
1971 E.
1924 B.
1920 A.
1870 D.
1846 F.
1787 C.



p.18

Solution: Starting with the S in Suffrage, draw a line through all the S's in the hidden words. If there are two S's in a word, use the first one. Does the shape remind you of a slithery animal?

History Mystery

Is it a family reunion?

Is it a neighborhood choir?

Is it a celebration?

You'll find the answer inside.

(Hints: The place is Mount Pleasant, the year is 1870.)

SHSI Iowa City

The Goldfinch

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